



**SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET**

FILED
Jun 13, 2025 10:11 AM
JORDAN Z. MARKS
SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK
File # 2025-000504
State Receipt # 37061320250458

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

LOVELAND RESERVOIR TO SWEETWATER RESERVOIR WATER TRANSFERS

Check Document being Filed:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- Other (Please fill in type):

**FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SAN DIEGO
COUNTY CLERK ON June 13, 2025**
Posted June 13, 2025 Removed _____
Returned to agency on _____
DEPUTY _____

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<p>TO: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation State Clearinghouse P. O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044</p>	<p>FROM: Name: Sweetwater Authority (Public Agency) Address: 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910 Telephone: 619-420-1413</p>
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or County Clerk (Include County name) Address:</p>	

<p>1. Project Title:</p>	<p>Loveland Reservoir to Sweetwater Reservoir Water Transfers</p>
<p>2. Project Applicant (include address, telephone number and email address):</p>	<p>Sweetwater Authority, 505 Garrett Avenue ATTN: Israel Marquez, Land and Environmental Manager Chula Vista, CA 91910 619-409-6759, imarquez@sweetwater.org</p>
<p>3. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):</p>	<p>The Loveland Reservoir to Sweetwater Reservoir water transfers occur in the Sweetwater River Watershed in San Diego County, CA. Water releases begin by opening the bumper valve at the Sweetwater Falls Dam ("Loveland Dam"), located in the unincorporated community of Alpine, CA, flow through the middle portion of the Sweetwater River channel, and terminate at Sweetwater Reservoir, a terminal surface water reservoir located in the unincorporated community of Spring Valley, CA.</p>
<p>4. (a) Project Location – City: N/A</p>	<p>(b) Project Location – County: San Diego County</p>
<p>5. Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:</p>	<p>As part of Sweetwater Authority's (SWA) ongoing water operations, runoff captured at Loveland Reservoir is transferred to Sweetwater Reservoir via the Sweetwater River channel as needed to augment water production for the SWA's Service Area. The amount of water released from Sweetwater Falls Dam (known as "Loveland Dam") is dependent on the forecasted and actual rainfall and runoff, the estimated raw water available for treatment at Sweetwater Reservoir, and the anticipated consumer water demand. Other operational or climatic factors, such as repairs to groundwater wells in the</p>

	<p>Service Area or prolong droughts, may also affect the amount of water being transferred between the reservoirs. Controlled releases via the opening of the Loveland Dam bumper valve have been occurring since the late 1940s. Other than uncontrolled releases by the overtopping of the Loveland Dam, controlled releases are the only current mechanism for releasing water from Loveland Reservoir. Sweetwater Authority is planning to conduct up to five water transfers from 2025 to 2030.</p>
<p>6. Name of Public Agency approving project:</p>	<p>Sweetwater Authority</p>
<p>7. Name of Person or Agency undertaking the project, including any person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the activity or the person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the activity:</p>	<p>Sweetwater Authority</p>
<p>8. Exempt status: (check one)</p>	
<p>(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial project.</p>	<p>(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines § 15268)</p>
<p>(b) <input type="checkbox"/> Not a project.</p>	<p>(State CEQA Guidelines §§ 15050(c)(2)-(3), 15378)</p>
<p>(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency</p>	<p>(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(a))</p>
<p>(d) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project.</p>	<p>(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(b),(c))</p>
<p>(e) <input type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:</p>	
<p>(f) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption. State Code section number:</p>	<p>State CEQA Guidelines § 15261</p>
<p>(g) <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explanation:</p>	<p>(State CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3) Common Sense exemption)</p>
<p>9. Reason why project was exempt:</p>	<p>Water transfers from Loveland Reservoir to Sweetwater Reservoirs are statutorily exempt, under Section 15261 of the CEQA Guidelines, "Ongoing Project". Water transfers from Loveland Reservoir to Sweetwater Reservoir have been occurring since before 1972. The fundamental nature of the Project, which involves releasing water from the Loveland Dam bumper valve to transfer stored water from Loveland Reservoir to Sweetwater Reservoir for treatment and distribution, has not changed since the late-1940s. Sweetwater Authority is not proposing to modify water transfers in such a way that a water transfer might have a new significant effect on the environment.</p>
<p>10. Lead Agency Contact Person: Telephone:</p>	<p>Israel Marquez, Land and Environmental Manager 619-409-6759, imarquez@sweetwater.org</p>

11. If filed by applicant: Attach Certificate of Determination (Form "B") before filing.
12. Was a public hearing held by the Lead Agency to consider the exemption? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, the date of the public hearing was:

Date: 6/12/25
Carlos Quintero
Signature

Name: Carlos Quintero, P.E.

Title: General Manager, Sweetwater Authority

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing:

(Clerk Stamp Here)

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

CERTIFICATE OF DETERMINATION

(If Notice of Exemption filed by Project Applicant, Project Applicant must Attach to Notice of Exemption)

1. Name or description of project:	Loveland Reservoir to Sweetwater Reservoir Water Transfers	
2. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	The Loveland Reservoir to Sweetwater Reservoir water transfers occur in the Sweetwater River Watershed in San Diego County, CA. Water releases begin by opening the hunger valve at Loveland Reservoir, located in the unincorporated community of Alpine, CA, flow through the middle portion of the Sweetwater River channel, and terminate at Sweetwater Reservoir, a terminal surface water reservoir located in the unincorporated community of Spring Valley, CA.	
3. Entity or person undertaking project:	A. Sweetwater Authority	
	B. Other (Private)	
	(1) Name	
	(2) Address	
4. Staff Determination:		
The Lead Agency's Staff, having undertaken and completed a preliminary review of this project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the Lead Agency's Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA has concluded that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:		
a. <input type="checkbox"/>	The proposed action does not constitute a project under CEQA.	
b. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is a Ministerial Project.	
c. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is an Emergency Project.	
d. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project constitutes a feasibility or planning study.	
e. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is categorically exempt.	
Applicable Exemption Class:		
f. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is statutorily exempt.	
Applicable Exemption:		
		Section 15261. Ongoing Project
g. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is otherwise exempt on the following basis:	
h. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project involves another public agency which constitutes the Lead Agency.	
Name of Lead Agency:		

Date: **June 11, 2025**

Staff: **Israel Marquez, Land and Environmental Manager**

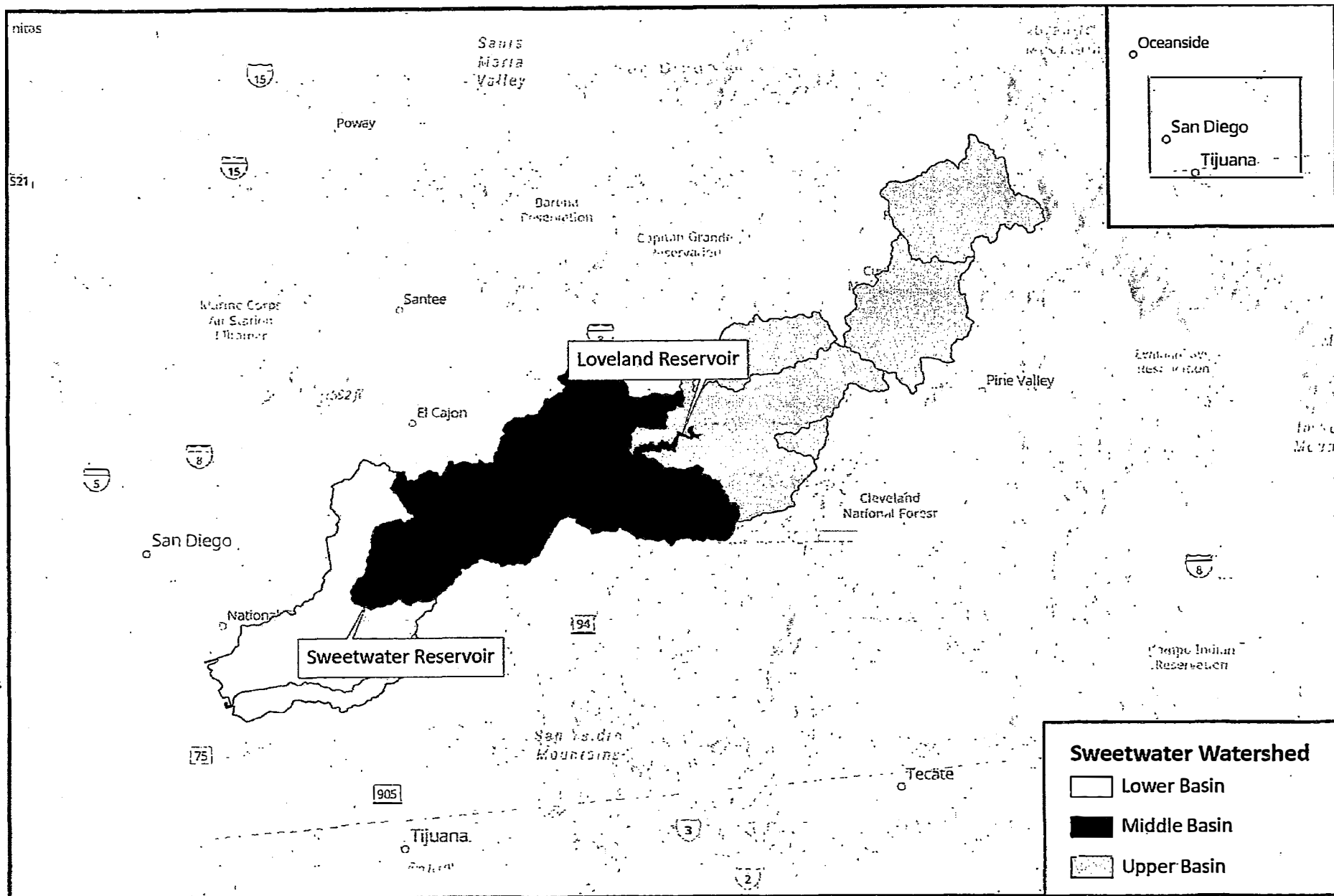
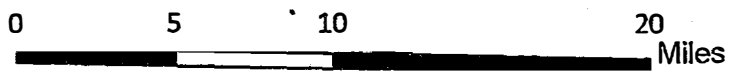


Figure 1: Project Area within the Sweetwater Watershed





State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: 37-06/13/2025-0458
STATE CLEARING HOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY SWEETWATER AUTHORITY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 06/13/2025
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COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING SAN DIEGO	DOCUMENT NUMBER 37-2025-0458
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PROJECT TITLE
LOVELAND RESERVOIR TO SWEETWATER RESERVOIR WATER TRANSFERS

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME SWEETWATER AUTHORITY	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER 619-409-6759
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PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 505 GARRETT AVENUE	CITY CHULA VISTA	STATE CA	ZIP CODE 91910
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PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency School District Other Special District State Agency Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$4,123.50	\$	0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)/(ND)	\$2,968.75	\$	0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,401.75	\$	0.00

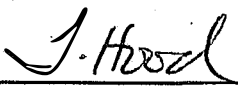
- Exempt from fee
- Notice of Exemption (attach)
 - CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)
- Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	0.00

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash Credit Check Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE X 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE San Diego County Clerk, TIFFANI HOOD, Deputy
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Payment Reference #: ORDER # 203659140 AND AUTH # 003439



San Diego County



Transaction #: 8426835
Receipt #: 2025223951

JORDAN Z. MARKS
Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk
1600 Pacific Highway Suite 260
P. O. Box 121750, San Diego, CA 92112-1750
Tel. (619) 237-0502 Fax (619) 557-4155
www.sdarcc.gov

Cashier Date: 06/13/2025
Cashier Location: SD

Print Date: 06/13/2025 10:12 am

Payment Summary

Total Fees:	\$50.00
Total Payments:	\$50.00
Balance:	\$0.00

Payment	
VITALCHEK PAYMENT	\$50.00
Total Payments	\$50.00
Filing	
CEQA - NOE	FILE #: 2025-000504 Date: 06/13/2025 10:11AM Pages: 6
	State Receipt # 37-06/13/2025-0458
Fees: Fish & Wildlife County Administrative Fee	\$50.00
Total Fees Due:	\$50.00
Grand Total - All Documents:	\$50.00

06/13/2025 10:10 AM PDT

SAN DIEGO COUNTY VITAL RECORDS
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY
ROOM 260
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

TERMINAL NAME: E6824103

ORDER# 203659140

PAYMENT

COUNTER PAYMENT \$50.00
AGENCY SUBTOTAL: \$50.00
LEXISNEXIS SERVICE FEE: \$2.50
TOTAL USD: \$52.50

CARD #: 9910 VISA
PAYMENT: DEBITCHIP READ-CONTACTLESS
MODE: ISSUER
DECLINE CODE: ONLINE DECLINE
APP LABEL: US DEBIT
CVN: PIN VERIFIED
AID: A0000000980840
ARQC: 2D85B84FB26747BE
AMOUNT: \$52.50
*** DECLINED BY CARD/ISSUER ***

CARD #: 9910 VISA
PAYMENT: DEBIT CHIP READ-CONTACT
MODE: ISSUER
AUTH CODE: 003439
APP LABEL: US DEBIT
CVN: PIN VERIFIED
AID: A0000000980840
ARQC: 01F4FF2A8D6D50E1
AMOUNT: \$52.50
*** CARD APPROVED ***

AMOUNT PAID:
\$52.50

SIGNATURE NOT REQUIRED

CUSTOMER COPY